

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SCAN OPERATION IN AN
INTEGRATED VOICE AND DATA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

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Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to a scan mode of operating for a communication system that supports both voice and data communication services. Prior to 10 entering the scan mode, a mobile station (28) provides a message to the fixed network equipment, and particularly a data controller (22) within the fixed network equipment, that it is entering scan mode. When exiting scan mode, the mobile station (28) sends a message to the data controller (22) indicating that it is no longer in scan mode. With knowledge of whether the mobile station (28) is in 15 scan mode, the data controller (22) sends data messages to the mobile station using a preamble. The preamble may include a plurality of short confirmed message packets (606) and each may contain a preamble list of mobile stations to which data messages are scheduled to be sent.

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